


Message

From: Morales, Monica [Morales.Monica@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/19/2021 12:03:26 AM
To: Smith, Mark A. [Smith.Marka@epa.gov]
CC: Daly, Carl [Daly.Carl@epa.gov]; Farris, Laura [Farris.Laura@epa.gov]; Boydston, Michael [Boydston.Michael@epa.gov]; Heffernan, Daniel [Heffernan.Daniel@epa.gov]; Darling, Corbin [Darling.Corbin@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Utah Air Quality/Inland Port Issues and Talking Points for Call with Dr Moench w/ UPHE

<!--[if lte mso 15 || CheckWebRef]-->

Morales, Monica has shared a OneDrive for Business file with you. To view it, click the link below.

 Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment talking points.docx

<!--[endif]-->

Hi Mark – I added the EJ talking points below from Danny into the attached. I'm going to send this to Deb by 10 am tomorrow, so please make any edits you may have before then.

Thanks.

Monica Morales
Acting Deputy Director
Air and Radiation Division (8ARD)
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129
Phone: (303) 312-6936
morales.monica@epa.gov



From: Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Utah Air Quality/Inland Port Issues and Talking Points for Call with Dr Moench w/ UPHE
Importance: High

Deb is okay with getting the paper tomorrow. Can you add in Danny's points?

Carl Daly
303-312-6416

From: Heffernan, Daniel <Heffernan.Daniel@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 4:20 PM
To: Smith, Mark A. <Smith.Marka@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>
Cc: Wood, MelanieL <Wood.MelanieL@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Utah Air Quality/Inland Port Issues and Talking Points for Call with Dr Moench w/ UPHE
Importance: High

Mark/Carl-

The Utah Physicians talking points document is read only for me. The following are suggested EJ related TPs put together with Michael & Corbin. Please let me know if you need anything further.

- We recognize the port's location is close to existing low-income and predominantly neighborhoods and based on our previous engagement with West Side community groups, as well as our own EJScreening data, we too are concerned about disproportionate environmental and health burdens in the neighboring communities.
- We appreciate UPHE's dedication to improving health outcomes, with a special focus on vulnerable populations.
- EPA is interested in helping to ensure that impacted communities have an opportunity to be meaningfully engaged in processes and decision-making that impact their health and environment.
- One of the principal goals of the EPA's Ports Initiative is to assure that communities have access to EPA-generated information and tools to help bring forward their concerns relating to the development and operation of ports.
- I understand that EPA Region 8 Environmental Justice staff reached out to UPHE about the Ports Initiative and would be interested in hearing about whether UPHE found that helpful in any way.
- More broadly, we really see the benefit of UPHE and other community-based organizations bridging the gap between federal resources and community needs on projects like the Lead Safe Outreach Program that we partnered on under a 2017 EJ Small Grant.
- That bridging function is even more important during this time when EPA personnel are not able to spend time in communities to understand their questions, concerns and to identify opportunities for new partnerships and solutions.
- EPA plans to make an announcement in the next few weeks regarding the availability of EJ grants and we will pass that information along to UPHE's Executive Director, Jonny Vasic, as well as others on our Regional EJ stakeholder contact list.

Danny Heffernan
Brownfields & Redevelopment Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8
Denver, CO
303-312-7074

From: Smith, Mark A. <Smith.Marka@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:16 PM

To: Heffernan, Daniel <Heffernan.Daniel@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Utah Air Quality/Inland Port Issues and Talking Points for Call with Dr Moench w/ UPHE

Mark A. Smith, Director
Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division
US EPA Region 8
303.312.6112 (office)

303.501.3052 (mobile)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Daly, Carl" <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>
Date: February 17, 2021 at 8:54:58 PM MST
To: "Ostigaard, Crystal" <Ostigaard.Crystal@epa.gov>, "Boydston, Michael" <Boydston.Michael@epa.gov>
Cc: "Morales, Monica" <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>, "Farris, Laura" <Farris.Laura@epa.gov>, "Jackson, Scott" <Jackson.Scott@epa.gov>, "Volk, Everett" <volk.everett@epa.gov>, "Schefski, Kenneth" <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>, "Smith, Mark A." <Smith.Marka@epa.gov>, "Darling, Corbin" <Darling.Corbin@epa.gov>
Subject: Utah Air Quality/Inland Port Issues and Talking Points for Call with Dr Moench w/ UPHE

I combined Laura's and Crystal/Mike's points together in a Word document. I added a talking points/key messages section where I pasted in what I thought were some key messages from the info that was provided.

[Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment talking points.docx](#)

Mark, your team can add any EJ key messages to this section and also add any EJ related background regarding the UT inland port.

Dr. Moench's email to EPA is pasted below.

Deb was looking for this by COB tomorrow, thanks.

Carl Daly
303-312-6416

Feb. 5, 2021

Dear Ms. Thomas, Mr. Garbow, and Mr. Utech:

Leading Utah state and regional environmental groups are very concerned about serious plans being made by the Utah legislature to subsidize and otherwise facilitate the development of an inland port, i.e. a massive warehouse farm and intermodal shipping and transportation hub a few miles northwest of the center of Salt Lake City. The legislature has proceeded in defiance of environmental, wildlife, and public health concerns for the population centers of the state, especially for the 270,000 people that live close enough to the proposed port to be severely affected by the new sources of air pollution. The anticipated public health harm is easily predicted by the saga of other inland port developments, like the Inland Empire in Riverside/San Bernardino, So. California, that has been infamously nick named, The Diesel Death Zone by many residents in the area. Polls show that the majority of Salt Lake Valley residents oppose the port.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Salt Lake Valley has been in non-attainment status for the 24 hr. PM2.5 standard for many years, although the EPA under the previous administration proposed changing that status using inappropriate criteria in our view. At full build out, this facility would create a massive new source of pollution from nearly 70,000 daily diesel semi-trucks, and 150,000 passenger vehicle trips, dozens of new fully loaded commodity train trips,

new large train “switcher” diesel engines, a new rail yard, diesel-powered cranes and increased air traffic. The size of the warehouse farm would be comparable to what now exists at the Inland Empire.

As a multi-faceted, new source of pollution, this facility would undermine, if not shatter our attainment status, especially for nearby residents, and represent an environmental justice issue of an unprecedented magnitude in Utah. But it has not been factored into the state’s implementation plan (SIP).

We are aware that the state is attempting to justify NAAQS attainment status using Section 179B of the CAA, negating emissions emanating from outside the US. That in itself strikes a blow at public health in Utah. Yet now the state is trying to make it even worse trying to write off or ignore the multiple new sources of pollution from their port proposal which they have proclaimed the largest economic project in the history of the state.

The port is also intended to facilitate a substantial increase in fossil fuel extraction from the state, something that clearly would be contrary to the climate goals of the new administration.

On behalf of multiple environmental NGOs and community groups, we request an opportunity to explain to you more details of our many objections to this proposal. Given that the state is moving quickly with supporting legislation right now, we hope such a virtual meeting could take place as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Moench
President, Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment
801 243 9089

Heather Dove
President, Great Salt Lake Audubon

Richard Holman
Chair, Board of Directors, Westside Coalition

Dorothy P. Owen
Chairman of the Board,
Westpointe Community Council (home of the Utah Inland Port Authority)

Jeanine Kuhn-Coker
President, League of Women Voters of Salt Lake

Catherine Weller, Vickie Samuelson
Co-presidents, League of Women Voters of Utah

Alan Neuman,
Chairman, Utah Environmental Caucus

Roger Borgenicht, Ann Floor
Co-chairs, Utahns for Better Transportation

Steve Erickson, Policy Advocate
Utah Audubon Council

Alex Farley
Sustainability Director
University of Utah

Joan M. Gregory
Co-Chair, Environmental Ministry, First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City

Jill Merritt
Director, Elders Rising for Intergenerational Justice

Raphael Cordray
Director, Utah Tar Sands Resistance

Marc Coles-Ritchie
Board Chair, Mormon Environmental Stewardship Alliance